

October 2025

Monthly Newsletter



Saint Serra Apostolate
of Boulder County, Colorado



District 6, Club #723
Region 13 Chartered

Initiated September 29, 1990

President: Stan Peterson
Secretary: **Open Position**
V.P. Vocations: Rita Roberts
V.P. Programs: Jan Landers
V.P. Affirmation: Bill Fitzgerald
Club Trustee: Peggy Morrow, Jan Landers

Chaplain: Fr. Mark Kovacik
Treasurer: Mary Ellen Thorne
V.P. Membership: Kathy Kaler
V.P. Communications: Steve Sparough
Parish Liaisons Manager: Rita Roberts



PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Dear Serrans,

"Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?" Luke 14:28

In the past we haven't put much thought into calculating costs to see if there is enough to sustain our survival however recently things are changing and most everyone seems to be on board. Yet our Board is still missing a Secretary and a Vice President. Please consider volunteering.

Praise the Lord that we've received significant sponsor donations to add to Serra's effectiveness. Peter Henthorn and Steve Sparough have solicited over \$1000 of support from local businesses for our Bingo fundraiser The Cork, Smoker Friendly, M. Vince Nail Salon and others have all donated gift certificates that are sure to bring the Bingo Games on Oct. 4th at St. Martin de Porres to a new level of fun and excitement. In addition, a number of Serrans have volunteered to create gift baskets for the silent auction. We're also thankful to Deacon David Luksch for his business's contribution to the marketing materials.

Important events: Annual Serra Salute, Oct. 16, at the Denver Athletic Club, registration online; www.serratrufund.com (registration ends Oct. 6th). It is the one main support for our Seminarians!

The main event for our club is the retreat scheduled for Oct. 24th, 7:45 am at SHJ.

And please don't forget the monthly meeting on Oct 3rd at Saint Thomas Aquinas, 1520 Euclid Ave, Boulder, CO. following the 5:10 pm Mass.

I hope I got those dates correct - please remember I was a pilot, not a scheduler! Questions on future scheduling please contact my VP of Programs, Jan Landers.

Love unites us and God's will sustains us!

Stan, President, Boulder Serra Apostolate

serraboulder.org

CHAPLAIN'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Dear Serrans,

On September 24, 2025 Archbishop Samuel Aquila turned 75, the age at which Bishops retire.

The Bishops are the apostles of today. We are grateful for his leadership since 2012. He has worked to strengthen Catholic identity, increase vocations, and promote missionary disciples.

Under his guidance, the archdiocese has seen increased support for priestly and religious vocations, aligning closely with the mission of the Serra Club. Archbishop Aquila has been a strong advocate for Serra, recognizing its essential role in fostering vocations and lay involvement in Church life. He has actively encouraged collaboration between clergy and laity, particularly in the areas of vocation awareness and youth outreach. His leadership has been a guiding force in strengthening both the local Church and the vocation-supporting mission of Serra.

Let us pray for him as he begins a new chapter in his life and for Archdiocese that God sends us a holy Bishop to guide us into the new evangelization.

God bless,

Fr. Mark, Pastor of SHJ, Serra Apostolate Chaplain.

Recap of Serra District Meeting

With over ten (10) Serrans, Boulder was well represented at the District meeting Sept 13. Of the eight (8) awards presented, Serra Boulder won two of them (Vocations and Affirmations Committees). Co. Springs won the remaining awards (Membership, Newsletter, Programs, Chaplain, Best Serran, Outstanding Club).



Fr Jason Wallace, Director, Vocations, Arch. of Denver Highlights of Talk:

Ask yourself are you God-centered or Self-centered. God leads you to happiness.

There are five (5) phases in the process to become a priest. Fr Jason's role is to develop programs that will facilitate discernment of God's will. Serra's financial support and prayers are critical. The phases are:

Discern the call to priesthood.

Evaluate to become an order or diocesan priest and which seminary.

Enter a seminary and become a novice

Ordained a deacon

Ordained a priest

Fr Daniel Ciucci, Pastor, Most Precious Blood parish Highlights of Talk:

Jesus doesn't ask permission to speak with you however you have the right to refuse to listen.

He recommends going before the blessed sacrament for at least 1 hour each week and listen to God speaking to you.

Serrans should develop a list of prospects from young people praying at daily mass.

Col John Halloran, President-Elect, Serra US Highlights of Talk:

There are three (3) C's Serrans need to focus on:

Concern that there are 3500 parishes in the US without a dedicated priest let alone sisters for the schools.

Commitment- ask yourself if you are committed to growing vocations or just contributing i.e. the pig or the chicken? There are a host of programs sponsored at the national level for the new leaders required to grow both Serra and vocations.

Courage is required to recruit new Serrans and to overcome a 'no' before you get a 'yes'

Dcn Daniel Rivas, seminarian at St John Vianney Highlights of Talk:

3 times before Dcn Dan was born, his mother contemplated his abortion. It was a woman in line at a grocery store that commented to his pregnant mother that her child would be a blessing that convinced her to have Dcn Daniel.

At 15, Dcn Daniel was stricken with leukemia for 4 years; during that time he had an inner-location calling him to the priesthood.

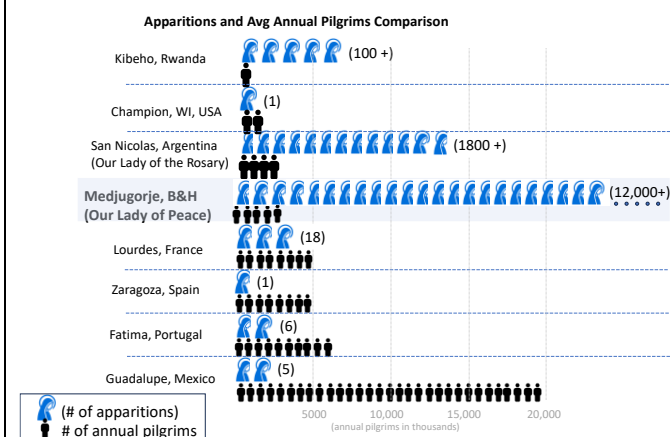
"The evil of abortion is not only that it kills God's sons and daughters but also future priests and religious."

Recap of Medjugorje Pilgrimage Presentation

On September 5, Steve Sparough shared with us the signs and insights from he and his wife's 8 day pilgrimage to Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina where they stayed at one of the visionary's home and witnessed nightly apparitions. The experience was very spiritual and they plan to return in 2026.



- ❖ Medjugorje is located in the former Yugoslavia in present day Bosnia & Herzegovina
- ❖ At the time of the 1st apparition Medjugorje was a simple, farming town with less than 500 residents.
- ❖ The area has been 99% 'practicing catholic' for centuries
- ❖ *Our Lady* said "she chose the country because of the faith of the people and the visionaries because she knew they would answer her call"



What's significant about Medjugorje is its relative anonymity compared to the sheer volume of apparitions that have taken place -> over 12,000. Since 1981 the Blessed Mother, referring to herself as *Our Lady of Peace*, has described the path to world peace -> she said it begins with each of us. The path to peace she describes:

- ❖ Daily family prayer
- ❖ Daily reciting of the entire Rosary
- ❖ Receiving the Eucharist often
- ❖ Frequent periods of Adoration
- ❖ Frequent scripture study and reflection
- ❖ Fasting 2x per week (Wed and Fri)
- ❖ Monthly confession

Artists rendering of *Our Lady of Peace* as described by the visionaries.



There are 6 visionaries. Their ages at the time of the 1st apparitions 10-17 (4 girls, 2 boys); they are now in their 50's. During an apparition *Our Lady of Peace* does not come to the visionaries, instead they are with her in heaven.

<Physical Description>

"Our Lady is the most beautiful woman they have ever seen, She is love personified."

She is ~5'5" tall; in her late teens; with black hair; curls, blue eyes. She wears a white veil, bluish-grey robe and there is a blue hue around her. Her feet rest on clouds. She looks the same ea. day except.....

.....on Christmas day she wears a golden dress and is accompanied by the baby Jesus.

<Similar to Fatima>

There are 10 secrets being revealed.

All 10 secrets have been revealed to 3 of the children, 9 have been revealed to the others.

When the last secret is revealed a sign to the world will occur.

Lanteri Center Presentation

Sept 19, Fr. Dan Barron from the Lanteri Ctr in Denver and a priest of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary spoke to the Boulder Club about Ignatian spirituality. At any given time both Our Lord and the evil one are speaking to us and essentially competing for our attention. God's gift to us of free will allows us to choose who to listen to. A Spiritual Director help individuals discern the difference between God's and the evil one's voice in their life. The Lanteri Center offers programs to those that hear the call to become Spiritual Directors.



~ October Events

Oct 3 – St Tom's (travel mtg) 5:10PM Mass followed by a Gen'l Mtg
Speaker Fr. Chris Considine regarding his calling and vocation

Oct 4

Bingo and Pope Leo's Chicago Style Hot Dogs



Food • Drinks • Prizes • Silent Auction • Fun
October 4, 2025 6:30-8:30pm
St Martin de Porres, St Joseph Hall
3300 Table Mesa Drive, Boulder, CO 80305

Oct 16 – Thursday, 5:30 – 9:00pm

Denver Archdiocese Ctr – Serra Salute
Colorado Athletic Center
Honoring Fr. Felix Medina-Algabã, pastor,
Queen of Peace and Fr. Jim Crisman, pastor,
St Francis of Assisi

Pls contact Jan Landers regarding a table for ten for the *Boulder Serra Club*

Oct. 24 – SHJ 7:45 AM, Registration for Serra Retreat
Retreat Master: Rev. Mark Yavarone, OMV
Ignatian Discernment Institute

In this retreat, Fr. Mark Yavarone, OMV, will explore St. Ignatius' teachings for finding freedom from discouragement, and living our daily lives with joy. He will discuss how to apply the teachings to our daily experience with concrete examples.

60-90 Day Programs Schedule

Nov 8 - Saturday, 8:30 – 10:30am

St Francis of Assisi, 3791 Pike Road, Longmont,
8:30am Mass
9:15am Continental Breakfast - St Claire Hall
9:30am General Meeting
Speaker: Deacon Manuel Alarcon

Nov 21· Friday, 8:00 – 9:00am

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 1318 Mapleton Ave, Boulder, CO
7:00a Mass
8:00a General Meeting
Speaker to Be Announced

Altar Server X-Mas Gift Assembly & Distribution Board Mtg

Dec 6 – Saturday, 2:00 - 4:30pm

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Jubilee Hall
Christmas Party
Speaker: Fr. Jacon, Dir of Vocations, Archdiocese of Denver

SAVE THE DATE

January 22-25, 2026: Serra US Leadership Rally
St Louis, MO
All are welcome for training, workshops, spiritual direction
~ More information to come~

New Members

This month we'd like to welcome two new members to our Apostolate:

Mari Camacho, Sacred Heart of Jesus

Linda McAllister, St Louis

Mari is a former member re-joining.

Lisa Hodges and Steve Sparough recruited Linda.

Birthdays and Anniversaries**October Members Birthdays**

Oct 22 – Nic Christoff

October Seminarians Birthdays

Oct 31 – Manuel Alarcon Salinas
(theo IV)

October Religious Birthdays**October Member Anniversaries**

Oct 31 - Dennis & Peggy Marrow

October Religious Anniversaries

None

Around the Deaconate in October**Nativity of Our Lord**

Join parishioners for a day of education about the different aspects of end-of-life planning.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025

10:30–3:30 PM | CABRINI HALL

REGISTER BY OCTOBER 15

Topics:

- End-of-Life Directives and Hospice Care
- Last Rites (Fr. John Roderick, F.S.C.B.)
- Funeral and Cemetery Planning
- Charitable Giving
- Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning

The event is free and open to everyone; however registration is required. Lunch, snacks, and printed materials are included.

QUESTIONS? Contact:

Bridget Fross, b.fross@nool.us

The event is sponsored by Archdiocese of Denver Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services.

To register, go to www.nool.us/end-of-life-conference

Nativity of Our Lord

2025 FALL GALA [Fundraiser]

Knight of Joy

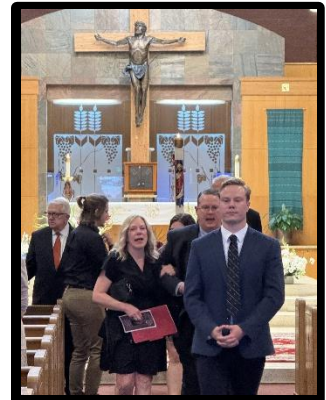
OCTOBER 25 | OMNI INTERLOCKEN HOTEL

Please call the parish for more information.

If you have an event at your parish that you would like to publicize, please let Steve Sparough know.

In Memory of Our Serra Friend Bill Eck

On September 22, at Sacred Heart of Jesus church in Boulder, Serrans from the District, Serra Trust and the Boulder Apostolate celebrated Bill's leadership in all three organizations and his significant contributions at a mass con-celebrated by Fr Mark Kovacik, Fr Terry Ryan and Dcn David Luksch. A joyful reception followed toasting the re-uniting Bill and his wife of 50+ years Lill.



Pease Remember in Your Prayers:**Our Denver Seminarians at St John Vianney**

Rev. Blaise Buches	Michael Irlbeck
Rev. Jose Delgado	Will Ives
Rev. Jason DiRito	James Joseph
Rev. Jonathan Francois	Joseph Machado
Rev. Mr. Daniel Rivas	Noah Martinez (SFA)
	Ashton Mendoza
James Berg	Luke Metzger
Cody Bliss	Thomas Myers, Jr.
Dominic Borchers	David Napierkowski
Jack Brustkern	Jeremiah Obiano
Thaddeus Conder	Daniel Olivas-Rey
Enrique Cruz-Bautista	Francisco Perez
Isaac Cunnings	Michael Randolph
Cooper Eitel	Joseph Tynan
James Finders	Steven Zarian
Manuel Hinojosa	
Daniel Igoe	

Our Redemptoris Mater Seminarians

Mr. William Clemence	Antonio Barba
Mr. Giovanni Capucci	Gianluca Gomez
Mr. Emilio Franchomme	Jorge Payano
	Leonardo Pineda
Michael Pitio	Paul Sanchez
Joshua Rodriguez	Marcus Chua
David Frazier	Matthew Zumiga
Daniel Rivas	Noah Alo
Gabriela Pineda	Matheo Cuartas
Andres Losada	Joan Carlos Guevara
Eric Eccleston	Lucas Cruz
Octavio Alexis Hernandez	Rafael Lerma
Giovanni Tolentino	Raphael de Jos
Andres Zepeda	Reyes
Javier Arambula	Timothy Rodriguez
Isaias Vargas	
Jeremiah Hernadez	
John Nunez	

For Our Ailing Serra Members, Spouses & Family Members**For our Recently Departed Members**

Audrey Kenney	Lorna Christoff	Mary Safranek	Adrian Leyva	Mary Ann Hibl
Audrey Kenney	Marcus Poulin	Bob Serafin	Bill Eck	Omar Salazar
Betsy Feauto	Mary Quilici	Dick Stadler	Betty Jancosek	Patricia Warner
Bill Bowe	Matthew Hibl	Nancy Sorenson	Bob Farrell	Ramon Jesch
Bob Brockish	Pauline Higgins	Pamela Sparough	Bridget Price	Rosemary Ames
Corky Jaster	(Annette & Chase)	Wayne Stetson	Carol Brockish	Warren S. Peterson
Chase Curfman	Sr. Roseann Barman	Dcn. George Thierjung	Dcn. Dave Arling	
Ed Husler	Teresa Christoff		Dcn. Chris Byrne	
Fr. Bill Breslin	Terry Gallagher		Gilbert J. Garcia	
Fr. Greg Ames	Woody Roberts		George Morzinski	
Jane Kryska			Helga Riedl	
David Florsek			Jeanette Denfeld	
Lisa Hodges			John Bernard Price	

SERRA APOSTOLATE PRINCIPLES

Spiritual growth in Christ	Encouragement of church vocations	Religious vocations	Responsive lay leadership	Association in Christian fellowship
---	---	-------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

United States of America Council of Serra Strategic Plan 2024-2027

Vision 2035

Become recognized as the worldwide resource for supporting religious vocations.

Overarching Goal 2024-2027

Foster a culture of vocations to the ministerial priesthood among parishes, schools, and families.

Goal 1: Increase Awareness of the Work of Serra at all Levels:

<abridged>

- Expand presence in parish, diocesan and national catholic media to increase awareness of Serra's mission and work.
- Inform clubs about activities and best practices to be shared via media and other means of communication.
- Create an annual marketing plan in order to effectively and routinely communicate what Serra is and what is and does to support and foster vocations worldwide.
- Collaborate with other religious vocations organizations to promote the work and mission of Serra to its constituents.

Goal 2: Improve Local Club Engagement at the Parish Level:

<abridged>

- Increase Local Club involvement in parishes by encouraging Serrans to join or start vocation committees at parishes in their area by June of 2026.
- Evaluate existing local vocation activities, add one additional program per year, and include all age groups and Catholic youth organizations.
- Create programs and resources in parishes that are focused on the family to equip parents to welcome and foster vocations by June of 2026.
- Develop a stronger awareness of vocations in parish communities to highlight the critical need for vocations to the priesthood and vowed religious life by December of 2025.
- Offer a monthly Holy Hour at different parishes to promote vocations.
- Promote an annual Mass at the parish as a way to inform parishioners about vocation promotion committees (or to start one) and to learn of the need for more vocations.
- Provide frequent notices about seminarians from the diocese to the parishes.
- Promote "Adopt a Seminarian" program to parishes to encourage vocations through prayer.
- Use the Traveling Chalice or Crucifix as a means to support and pray for vocations.
- Participate in diocesan ordinations in support of the diocese and seminarians.

Goal 3: Expand Support for Serra Clubs:

<abridged>

- Develop different possible structures and formats for Serra clubs to allow flexibility for local cultures and traditions.
- Adopt "Sister Clubs" to share best practices, programs, vocation ideas and materials, and assist with club dues, when needed.

St. Mother Teresa Life's Guidance

A list of ways to cultivate humility:

- ❖ Speak as little as possible about yourself
- ❖ Keep busy with your own affairs and not those of others
- ❖ Avoid curiosity about things that do not concern you
- ❖ Do not interfere in the affairs of others
- ❖ Accept small irritations with good humor
- ❖ Do not dwell on the faults of others
- ❖ Accept censures even if unmerited
- ❖ Give in to the will of others
- ❖ Accept censures even if unmerited
- ❖ Give in to the will of others
- ❖ Accept insults and injuries
- ❖ Accept contempt, being forgotten and disregarded
- ❖ Be courteous and delicate even when provoked by someone
- ❖ Do not seek to be admired and loved
- ❖ Do not protect yourself behind your own dignity
- ❖ Give in, in discussions, even when you are right
- ❖ Choose always the more difficult task



***“It is pride that changed angels into devils;
It is humility that makes men as angels.”***

St Augustine

[Thank you](#) to the parishes that support our commitment to Religious Vocations!

MEMBER PARISHES OF SERRA CLUB OF BOULDER COUNTY

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SACRED HEART OF JESUS ST. THERESA

ST. JOHN
THE
BAPTIST

ST. THOMAS
AQUINAS
(ST. TOM'S)

SACRED HEART
OF MARY

ST. MARTIN
DE PORRES

ST. RITA

OUR LADY
OF GRACE

ChatGPT